

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Health Services Council**  
**Project Review Committee-II**

**DATE: 1 March 2007**

**TIME: 2:30 PM**

**LOCATION: Health Policy Forum**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Committee II: Present: Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Vice Chair), Catherine E. Graziano RN, Ph.D., Robert J. Quigley, DC, (Chair), Larry Ross, Reverend David Shire (Secretary)**

**Not Present: Rosemary Booth Gallogly, Wallace Gernt,**

**Excused Absence: Raymond C. Coia, Esq., Maria Gil, Denise Panichas**

**Staff: Michael K. Dexter, Joseph G. Miller, Esq.**

**Public: (Attached)**

**1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and Time Extension for the Minutes Availability**

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 PM. The Chairman noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. Minutes of the 15 February 2007 Project Review Committee-II meeting were approved as submitted. The Chairman requested a motion for the extension of time for the availability of minutes pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. A motion was made, seconded, and passed by five in favor and none opposed (5-0) that the availability of the minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame provided for under the Open Meetings Act. Those members voting were: Almeida, Graziano, Quigley, Ross, Shire.

## **2. General Order of Business**

Staff noted a received request to have the application of Neighbors Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Senior Helpers for initial licensure of a Home Care Provider Agency at 75 Main Street in East Greenwich be removed from the agenda for today's meeting. The Chairman granted the applicant a second continuation.

The next item on the agenda was the application of Health Resources of Middletown, Inc. [Genesis Healthcare Corporation] for a Certificate of Need to undertake building renovations and upgrades to the nursing home, Grand Islander Center, located at 333 Green End Avenue in Middletown and upgrade its mechanical systems. Staff

**noted that this was the first meeting for this applicant.**

**Ms. DeBlasio, legal counsel to the applicant, stated that the parent company of the applicant, Genesis Healthcare Corporation, owns three nursing home facilities in Rhode Island, operates facilities in 12 states and services 26,000 senior citizens. Representing the applicant were Mr. Blinn, Executive Vice President of New England Operations for Genesis Healthcare, Ms. Crotty, Vice President of Quality Improvement, and Mr. Woods, Administrator of Grand Islander Center.**

**Mr. Blinn summarized the proposal and Genesis' organizational structure. The Chairman requested that the applicant provide a document that depicts the regional organizational structure including contact information, to which the applicant agreed.**

**The applicant stated the proposal is to modernize the Grand Islander facility, including carpeting, using longer lasting products on walls and doors, better lighting products, individual room temperature controls, and access to better rehab facilities. The project would be funded entirely with equity. The Chairman stated that the Committee might want to make a site visit. The applicant agreed.**

**Staff inquired about the proposed change in ownership of Genesis. The applicant stated that the change in ownership would not affect the project at all. The applicant stated that the facility's management**

team would not be impacted by the proposal. Per request, the applicant agreed to provide additional floor plan information.

Mr. Mead, Senior Project Manager for Genesis Healthcare, discussed the project. He stated that the whole facility would be renovated, including electrical and plumbing upgrade and brought up to code. Areas under renovation would be sealed off from the residents and residents would be transferred to different rooms during renovations.

A Committee member asked the applicant if the concept of culture change would be integrated into the present program. Ms. Crotty explained that they are incorporating more point of service dining, more luxurious bathing areas by reconfiguring tub and shower rooms to maximize privacy and comfort.

The applicant discussed their regional track record and stated that they are significantly better than the state average in every state in New England besides Connecticut, where they are right at the state average or a little above.

Reverend Shire noted that the culture change is about the opportunity to change from the medical model to a more family or home-style model.

The Chairman stated that the applicant will receive follow up questions and that a site visit will be set up.

**There was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Valentina D. Adamova**